

Home Group Study Material for w/c 12th December 2011
How big is your God – Matthew 22:23-33

Suggested questions for discussion – as usual please modify them as appropriate for your group

The Sadducees come to Jesus with an absurd question about the afterlife and Jesus gives an amazing answer, which contains a stern rebuke, a remarkable response, and an incredible promise. The aim of the study is to understand God's desire to have an everlasting relationship with us and his promise of an incredible afterlife.

1. *'Intro' question:* Life in heaven will presumably have some differences to life on earth. For a start I hope that there will be no parking meters or chewing gum! What wouldn't you want to see in heaven?

Please read Matthew 22:23-33

2. What were the Sadducees hoping to achieve by their question to Jesus?
3. The Sadducees were rationalists. What are the problems with being a rationalist?
4. How can we make sure that we don't make the same mistake as the Sadducees?
5. Why did Jesus rebuke the Sadducees so strongly?
6. Where do your views about heaven come from?
7. In my sermon I wrote that: *"what God has prepared for his people in heaven is so incredible, so wonderful, that we can't even begin to imagine what it'll be like there."*

Do you agree with this statement? If so why? If not, why not?

8. What is Jesus' argument for the existence of the afterlife in vv31-32?
9. What does this mean for us?
10. Finish the meeting with a time of prayer that includes praising God for who he is: his character, his power, his authority, his majesty, his..... Give thanks for this time of Advent that reminds us of Jesus' first coming and the promise of his return.

If you have time quickly review the 'term' and share what the HG means to you and your discipleship.

First HG meeting in 2012 will be in w/c 9th January.

Issued by Jeremy Bamber
9/12/11